In the Abstract:

Please amend the Abstract as set forth below:

The invention relates to a novel transparent block copolymer and its process for the manufacture. The process comprises a first partial killing of at least the living copolymeric species $R\text{-}S_1\text{-}B_1\text{-}M$ with a multi-functional deactivation agent where S_1 is a ~~monovinyl-substitued~~ monovinyl-substituted aromatic homopolymer, B_1, is a conjugated diene homopolymer, M is an alkali metal and R is an alkyl (RM being an initiator) and further comprises a second total deactivation of at least the living tapered block copolymeric species $R\text{-}S_1\text{-}B_1\text{-}B_2/S_2\text{-}M$ (obtained by adding a feed B_2/S_2 to the reaction medium) by a mono-functional deactivation agent (the terminating agent).